



November 19th, 2014

5:00-6:30PM

Whittemore Robbins House

In Attendance:

Adults: Colleen Leger – director of AYCC, Ivy Laplante-AYHSC Director, Andie– parent in Arlington, GSA,

Kevin Flood – Asst Dir for ABGC, Karen Dillon –Youth and Outreach Coordinator AYHSC

Cindy Starks – School Committee

Steve Porciello– Arlington police dept, Jack Flood – assistant principal OMS

Carlene Newell – elementary health educator

Kathy Hirsch – Guidance at AHS, Cindy Bouvier – AHS administration

Joe Curro - Selectman

Students: Catie Blair – BBN sophomore, Mina Burton – AHS Junior, Sana Mohtadi– AHS Sophomore, Isabella DeFrancisco-AHS Sophomore, Rosella Aluia-AHS Senior, Olivia Sorenson-AHS Junior, Laura Schoonmaker– AHS Junior

I. Welcome

Introductions -Teen Advisors and community members all introduced themselves and their roles

II. Project Updates

· **AYHSC Director Search Update:** Colleen introduced Ivy LaPlante who is the new director for the coalition. From Acushnet, Ivy graduated from Boston University School of Public Health with a masters degree in maternal and child public health. She spoke about herself and her background.

· **Update on GGC:** Colleen explained what Guiding Good Choices is and what its goals are. Offered once in the Fall and once in the Spring through a grant. Valuable for parents to network as well as the information learned. The fall session has concluded and was a success, About 20 parents attended.

· **Winchester Coalition Presentation:** Kathy Hirsch attended a presentation about opiate abuse in Winchester on November 5th. A large panel of people from town presented it was

attended by about 200 people. Presentation talked about many drugs in their community and let people know about resources and how and where to get help. Speakers spoke about their direct involvement with these issues in their town. Shared information about issues in Winchester and how they are dealing with them.

- **AYCC Gala Report:** Major fund raising event for the counseling center at town hall in October, it was very successful this year – raised about \$23,000. Great night.
- **CHNA Grant:** CHNA 17 We applied for and received a grant to allow our youth advisors to expand our outreach. One potential project would be to start a social media campaign. Another idea is to have our advisors tell us how it is best to reach out to peers. This culminates in a statewide summit for youth in March. The grant allows youth to become leaders and connect with other youths leaders and adults in different communities.
- **Teen Posters:** Posters raise awareness of what services are available at AYCC and how to access support. Karen reached out to students at the high school as potential designers and they made several posters that were hung up at the AYCC gala. Plan is to hang some at OMS and AHS.
- **Teens:** YRBS – Advisory at AHS went over the results with students. Many students were very interested in the results and wanted more specifics. They asked about how the questions are created. Colleen and Cindy Bouvier spoke about how the information is tabulated and some of the specifics. Some students shared that they did not receive this information. Students thought that it might be better as an assembly and that it is more than just a powerpoint presentation – we need to involve them. Teens also spoke about stress and anxiety and the difference and Ivy challenged them to talk to their peers about ways that students deal with stress. Also asked them to think about better ways to have that information presented.
- **Jack Flood:** spoke about homelessness and work he is doing with a coalition and he is interested in having them come to this meeting and talk to us in the future.
- **Kevin Flood spoke about Teen nights at the ABGC** – They take place on friday nights on the bottom floor of the club. Sometimes there are movies, hanging out. The ABGC is looking at ways to get the information out and figure out how to reach 12-18 kids. Talked about possibly having 12-15 and 16-18. Wanted to figure out how to get kids in there and what makes it interesting to them. We brainstormed ideas.

Meeting Adjournment

Next Coalition Meetings- at 5:00-Whittemore Robbins House
December 11, 2014